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Congress of the United States House of Representatives

Washington, **DC** 20515–2403

March 31, 2023

The Honorable Kay Granger Chairwoman Committee on Appropriations U.S. House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro Ranking Member Committee on Appropriations U.S. House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Raspet Flight Laboratory Expansion project. The entity to receive funding for this project is Mississippi State University (MSU) located at P.O. Box 6343, Mississippi State, Mississippi, 39762. The funding would expand MSU's Raspet Flight Research Laboratory (RFRL), which is an academic leader in unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) research and innovation. RFRL works with government and industry partners and helps grow aviation companies and innovative technologies. The work of the RFRL engages two of the Mississippi Development Authority's strategic plan target industries—aerospace and advanced manufacturing. The project is a valuable use of taxpayer funds because this facility expansion would increase the capacity for the RFRL to service industry and government partners and to be utilized as an economic driver toward the State's strategic development of the aerospace and advanced manufacturing industries. RFRL's leadership and expertise in UAS applications helps generate economic growth in Mississippi.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(1).

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. Please let me know if I can be of further assistance.

Michael Guest Member of Congress

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